



# THE TRAIL ENHANCEMENT PLAN

December 2008

## Late Backup



## OBJECTIVES

- Objective #1: Identify Needed Basic Trail Amenities (PARD)
- Objective #2: Identify Visionary Trail Enhancements (TTF)



# THE TRAIL



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## INVENTORY METHOD

- Compare Existing Amenities With The Preferred Standards
- Identify Deficiencies
- Generate A Cost Estimate For Trail Improvements Currently Unfunded

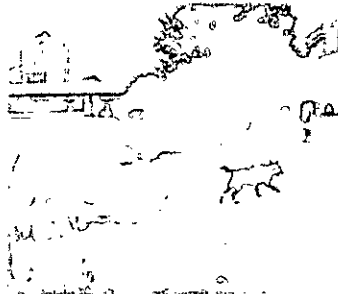
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## FUNDED WORK IN PROGRESS

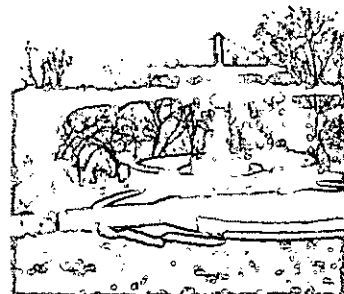
- \$1 Million 2006 CIP Bonds For Lady Bird Lake Trail
- Scope - Addressing Critical Needs For Entire Trail
- Work Underway



Trail Resurfacing



Erosion/Drainage



Site Improvements

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## BASIC TRAIL AMENITIES

- Trail Surface
- Trailheads
- Restrooms
- Drinking Fountains
- Site Furnishings
- Shelters
- Bridges
- Stairs and Ramps
- Docks
- Retaining Walls
- Observation Points
- Trail Signage
- Vegetation Management

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# TRAIL SURFACE STANDARDS

- Proper Drainage
- Fully Accessible
- Stable Banks and Retaining Walls
- Smooth Surface



Funding Requirement \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,600,000

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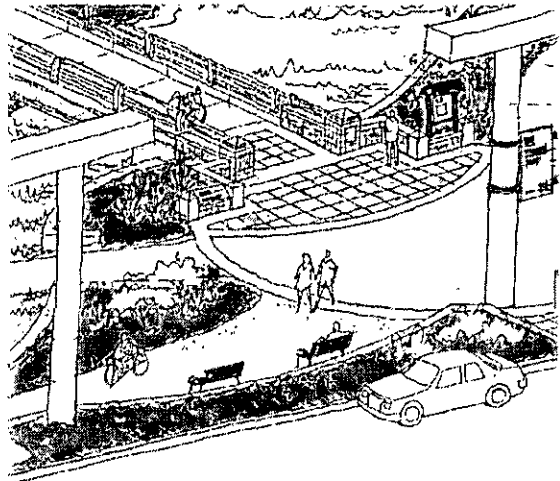
# TRAILHEAD STANDARDS

- Adequate Points Of Trail Entry
- Major Trailheads (Parking, Restrooms, Information Kiosk, Fitness Equip, Shower, Drinking Fountain, Site Furnishings )
- Minor Trailheads (Information Kiosk, Drinking Fountain, Site Furnishings )

EXISTING

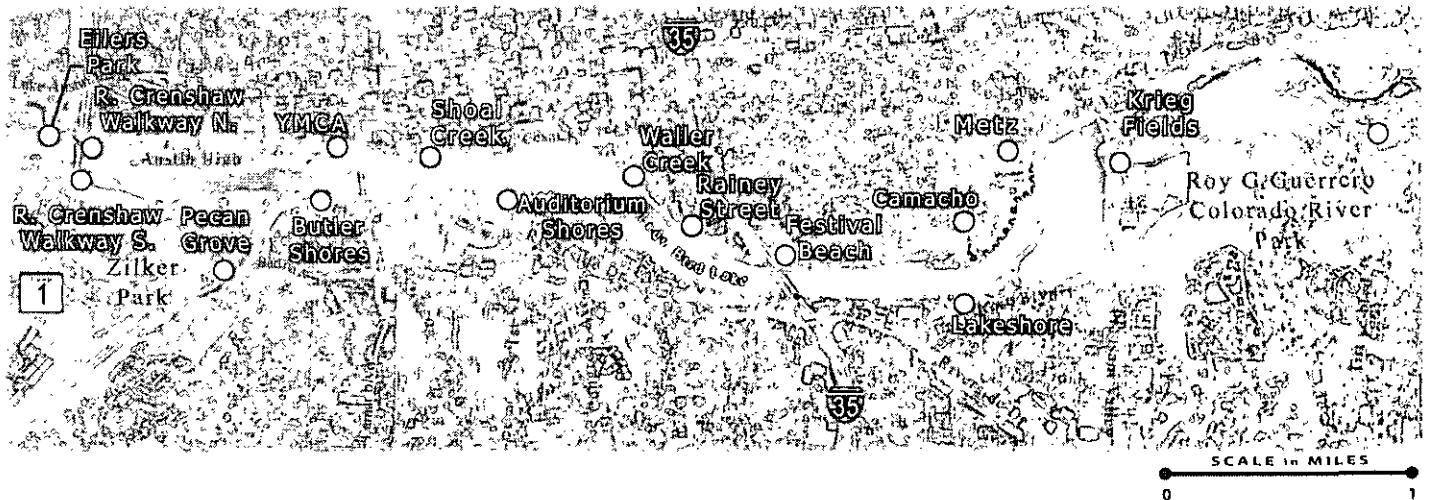


PROPOSED



7

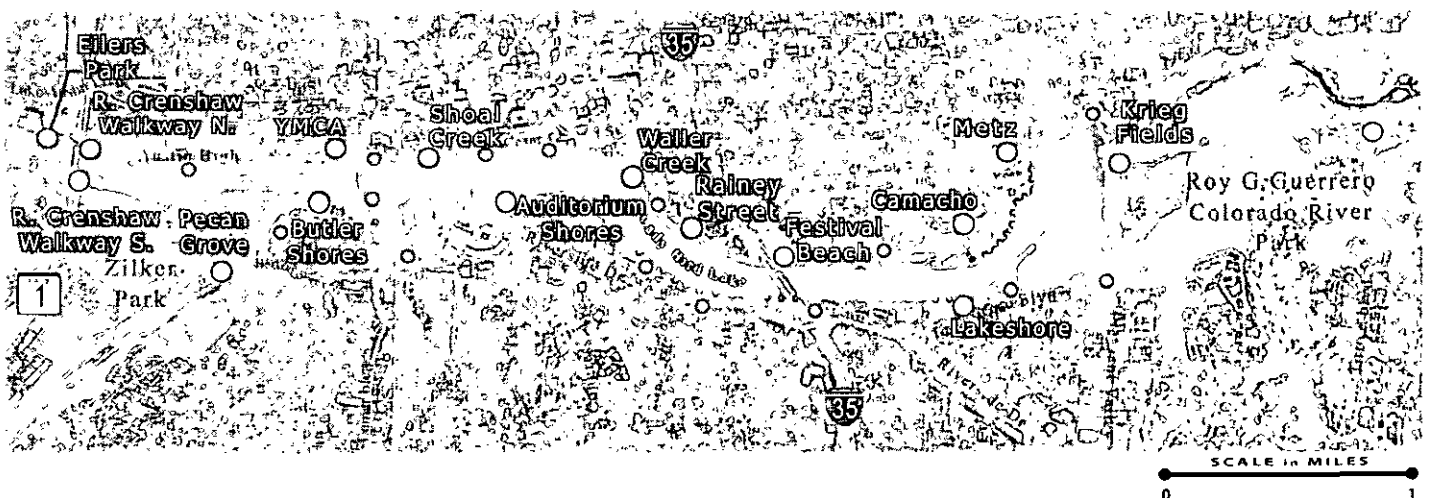
# MAJOR TRAILHEADS



- 16 - Major Trailheads
  - All Existing Trailheads Are Major Trailheads
  - No Existing Trailhead Has All Preferred Level Of Amenities
  - Renovate/Expand All 16 Major Trailheads\_\_\_\_\$3,400,000

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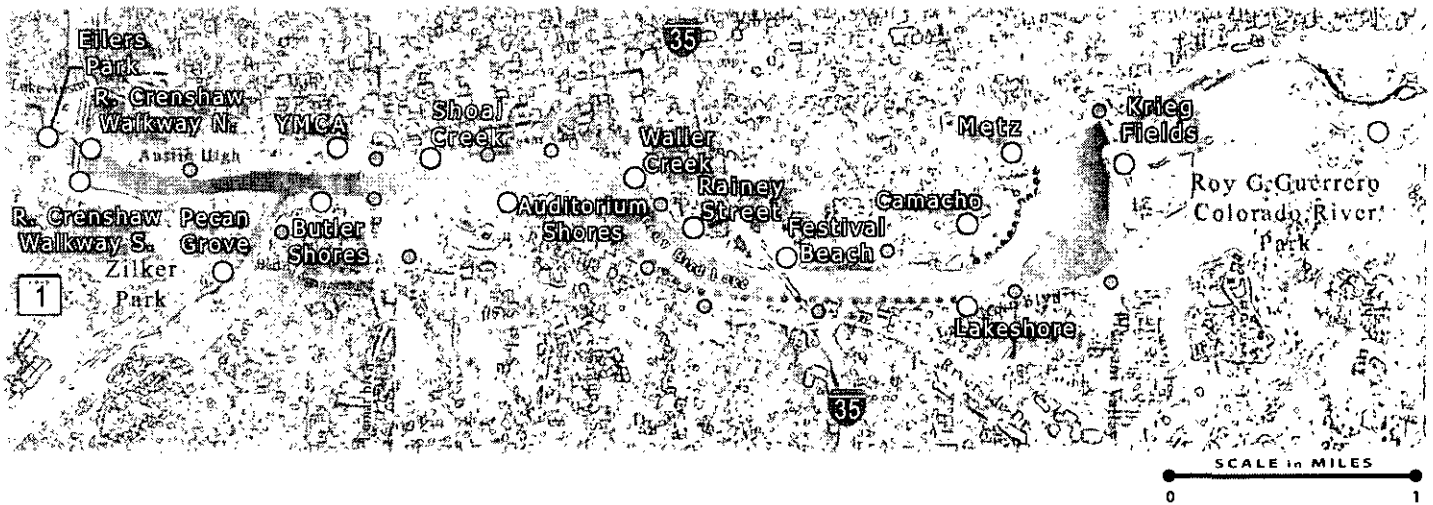
# MINOR TRAILHEADS



- 15 - New Minor Trailheads
  - Develop New Minor Trailheads For Neighborhood Access\_\_\_\_\$500,000

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# ALL TRAILHEADS



○ 16 - Major Trailheads _____	\$3,400,000
○ 15 - New Minor Trailheads _____	\$500,000
Funding Requirement For All Trailheads _____	\$3,900,000

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## RESTROOM STANDARDS

- Spaced No More Than 1 Mile Apart
- ADA Accessible
- Durable/Maintainable Facilities

EXISTING

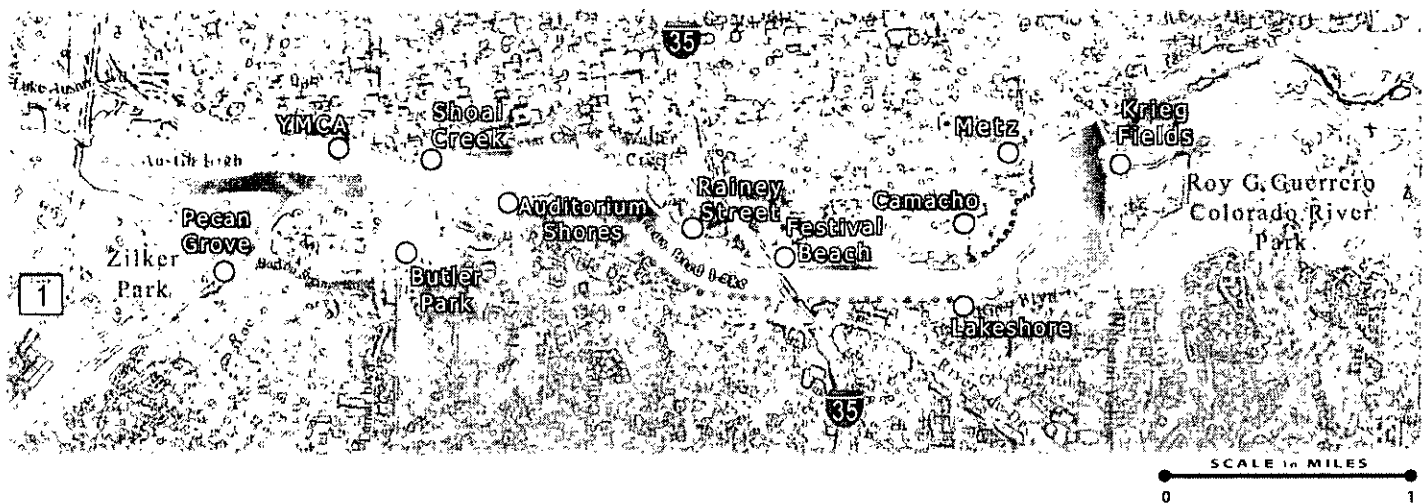


PROPOSED



11

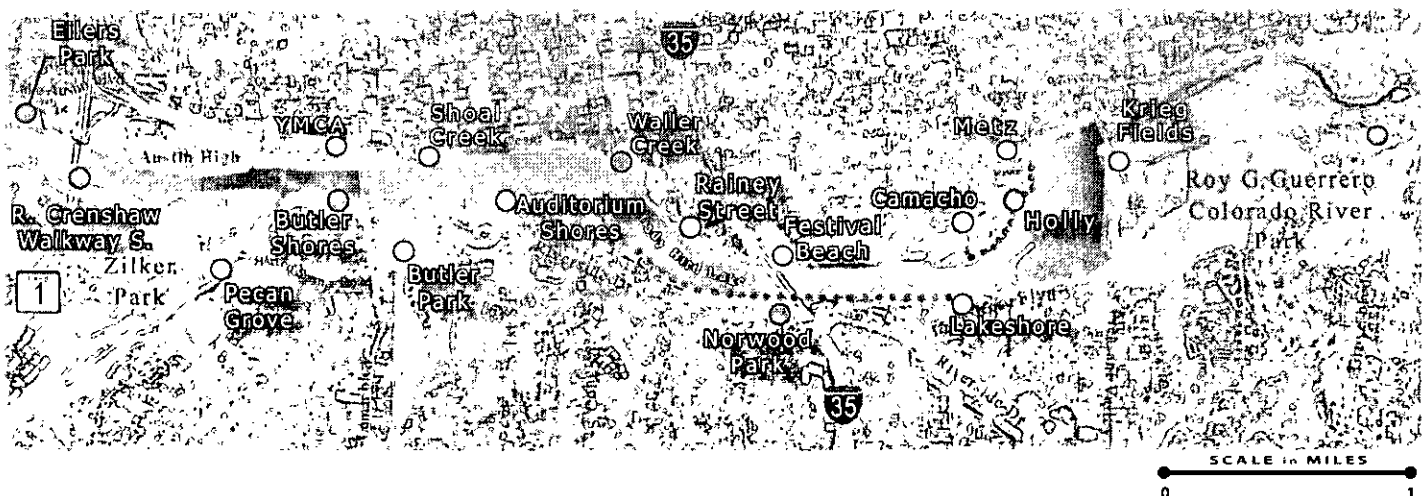
# EXISTING RESTROOMS



- 11 - Existing Restrooms
- 8 Need Renovation or Replacement \_\_\_\_\_ \$2,200,000

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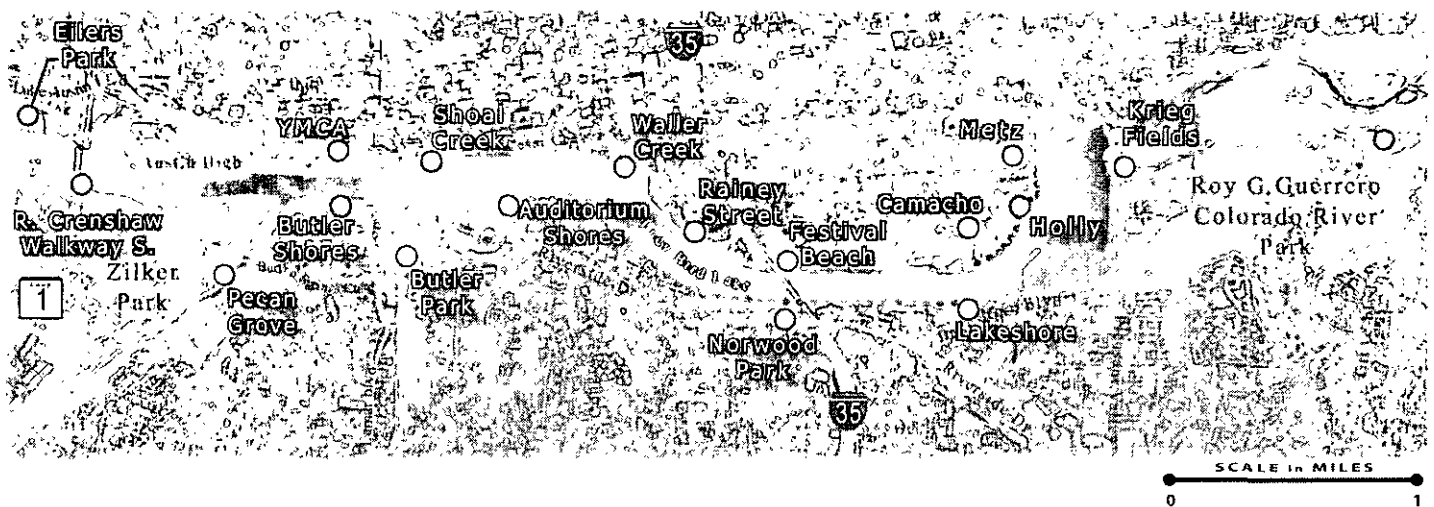
# ADDITIONAL RESTROOMS



- 7 - New Restrooms \_\_\_\_\_ \$2,400,000

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# ALL RESTROOMS



○ 11 - Renovate Or Replace Existing Restrooms	\$2,200,000
○ 7 - New Restrooms	\$2,400,000
Funding Requirement For All Restrooms	\$4,600,000

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# COST SUMMARY

•Trail Surface	\$1,600,000.00
•Trailheads	\$3,900,000.00
•Restrooms	\$4,600,000.00
•Drinking Fountains	\$400,000.00
•Site Furnishings	\$500,000.00
•Shelters	\$1,600,000.00
•Bridges	\$1,400,000.00
•Stairs and Ramps	\$1,200,000.00
•Docks	\$2,000,000.00
•Retaining Walls	\$1,800,000.00
•Observation Points	\$1,600,000.00
•Trail Signage	\$1,800,000.00
•Vegetation Management	\$2,600,000.00

Total For Enhancement Plan \$25,000,000.00\*

\*Funding for Trail Amenities listed above is not available.

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## **PRIORITY 1**

10 Million Dollars To Renovate/add  
Amenities To Fill Critical Service Gaps  
And Replace Aging Infrastructure (i.e.  
Restrooms, Drinking Fountains, Drainage &  
Erosion)

16

## **PRIORITY 2**

\$15 million to complete the replacement of  
trail support facilities

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# FUNDING

## Potential funding sources

- Future Bond Election
- Parkland Dedication Fees
- Partnerships



**VISION PLAN**

September 2008



## Creating a Vision for the Trail

### The Trail Foundation's mission

is to protect and enhance the Trail at Lady Bird Lake through careful improvements to the Trail's infrastructure and environment, while honoring the original vision of the Trail's founders. In a distinctively collaborative effort, the Foundation works in cooperation with the Austin Parks and Recreation Department to close the gap between what the government provides and what the Trail requires.

### Site Analysis



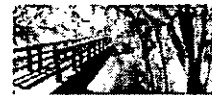
### Programming



### Workshop



### Goals



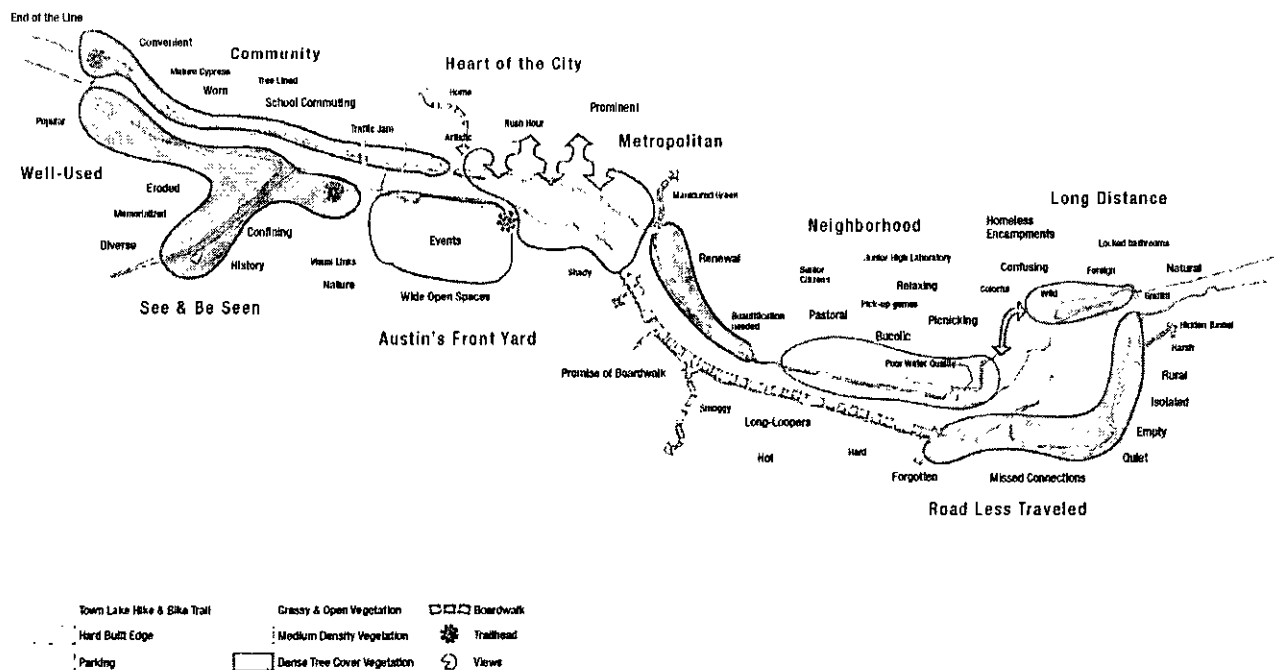
### Vision Plan



Celebrating 25 Years



## Hitting the Trail—Our Impressions



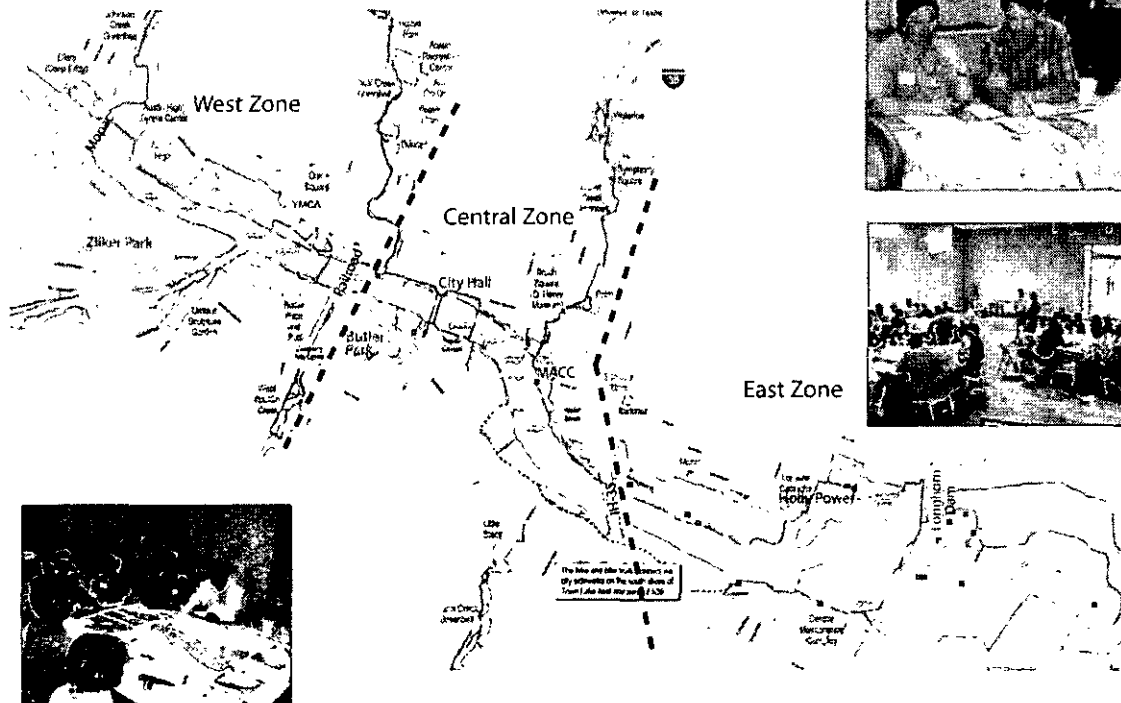


## Programming

- Being inspirational
- Meditating
- Practicing guitar
- Kayaking
- Dog swimming
- Feeding ducks
- Relaxing
- Participating in Redbull Flugtag
- Working
- Exploring/ enjoying wildlife
- Enjoying the event from the lake



## Community Workshop





## Goals



### 1 Enhance the Trail

- Maintain and enhance the natural environment of the Trail
- Encourage continued layers of use
- Develop a cohesive trail signage system

### 2 Expand the Trail

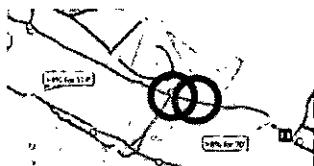
- Improve linkages
- Add trailheads
- Increase trail mileage
- Expand the day
- Create new landmarks through art, gathering spaces

### 3 Support the Trail

- Create a management plan
- Find a consistent funding mechanisms
- Identify particular organizations and neighborhood groups for implementation



## Goal: Enhance the Trail



Location

- Maintain multi-purpose destinations
- Improve the gathering spaces and amenities



Pfluger Bridge Existing Conditions

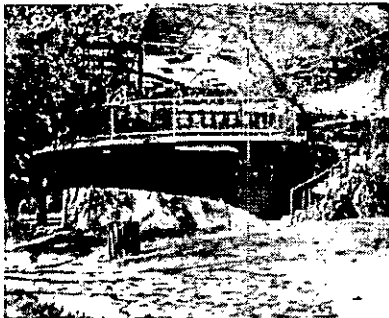
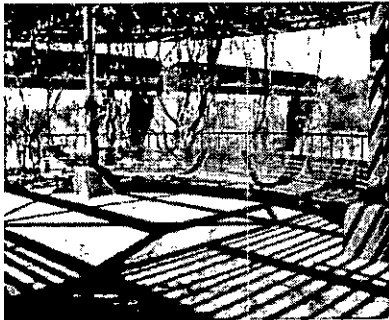


Pfluger Bridge Concept

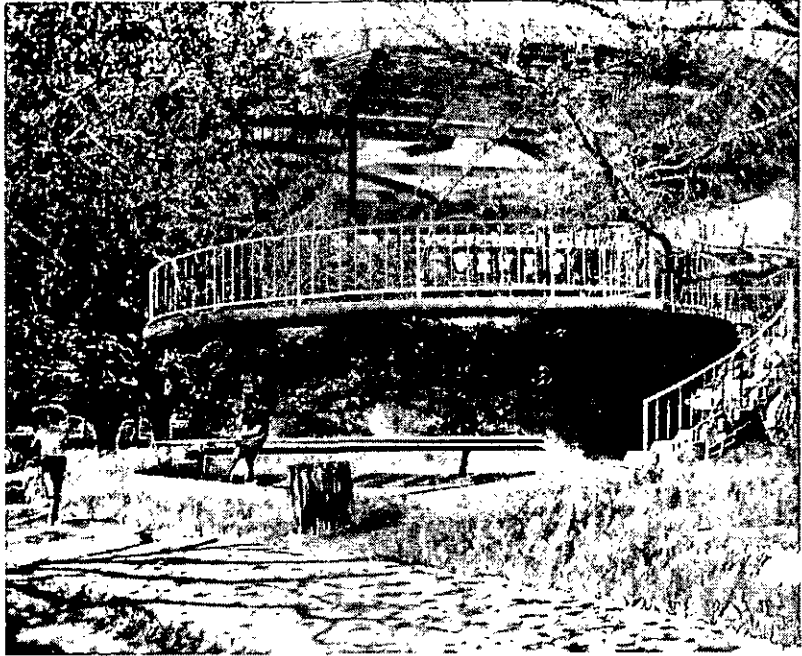


## Goal: Enhance the Trail

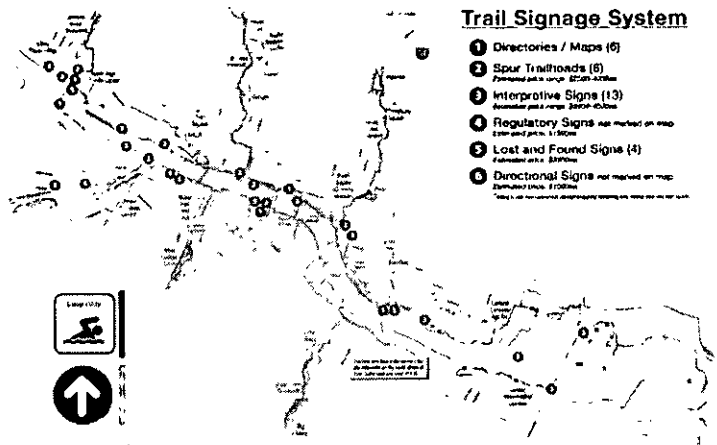
Existing Conditions



Rotunda Concept



## Goal: Enhance the Trail



Lost & Found Sign



Trailhead Sign



Directional Sign



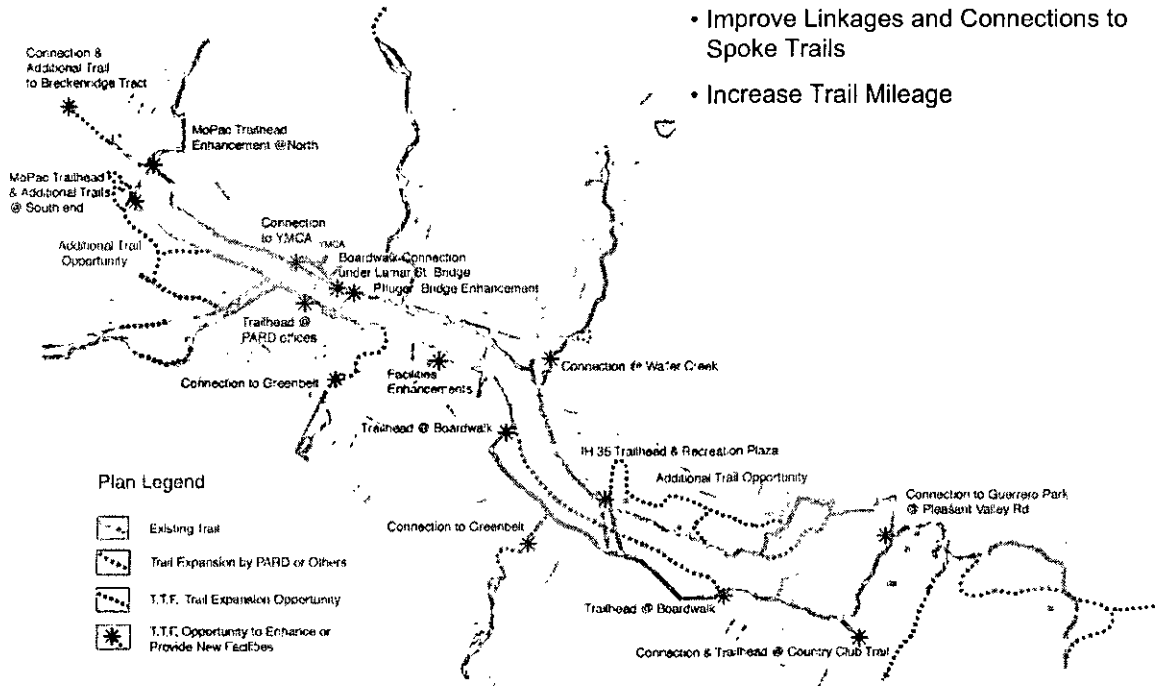
Regulatory Sign



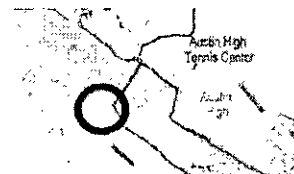
Interpretive Sign



## Goals: Expand the Trail



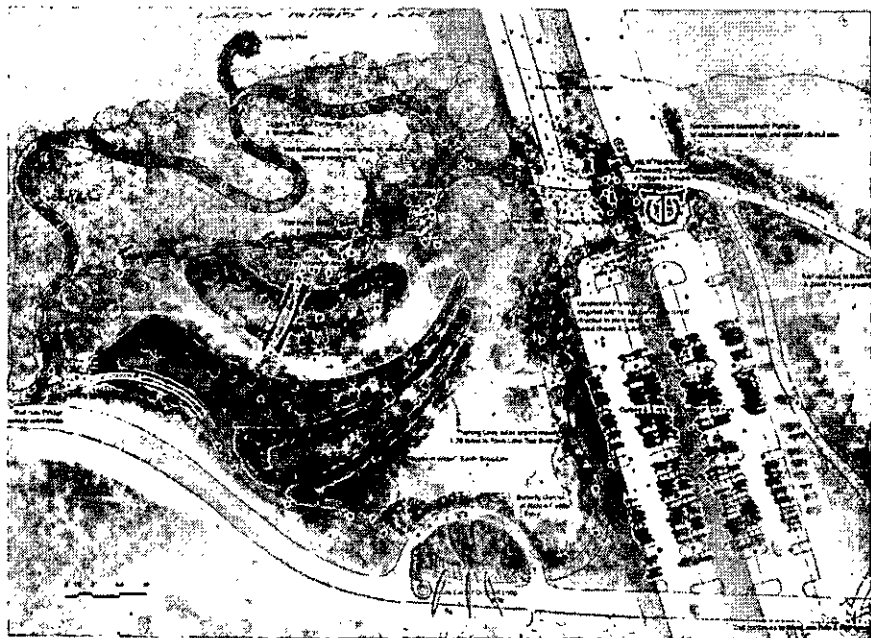
## Goal: Expand the Trail



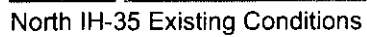
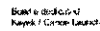
Location



Existing Conditions



South Area MoPac Trailhead and Trail Extension

[illegible]

### Existing Conditions



## Lamar Bridge Concept

- Maintain and enhance the natural environment
- Create visual and physical access to the water
- Create new landmarks
- Balance of active and passive recreation



## Conclusions



### 1 Enhance the Trail

- Maintain and enhance the natural environment of the Trail
- Encourage continued layers of use
- Develop a cohesive trail signage system

### 2 Expand the Trail

- Improve linkages
- Add trailheads
- Increase trail mileage
- Expand the day
- Create new landmarks through art, gathering spaces

### 3 Support the Trail

- Create a management plan
- Find a consistent funding mechanisms
- Identify particular organizations and neighborhood groups for implementation

## Acknowledgments and Resources

Austin Butterfly Forum

Austin Cycling Association

Austin Parks Foundation

Austin Runner's Club

Austin Triatheletes

Black + Vermooy Architects

City of Austin Economic  
Growth and  
Redevelopment

City of Austin Parks and  
Recreation Department

Downtown Austin Alliance

Downtown Austin  
Neighborhood Association

East Cesar Chavez  
Neighborhood Association

Hill Country Trail Runners

KLRU

Larson Burns Architects

LBJ Wildflower Center

LZT Architects

Mayor's Office

National Wildlife  
Federation

Native Plant Society

REI

RunTex

SaveTownLake & South  
River City Citizens

Sierra Club

Texas Bicycle Coalition

Texas Rowing Center

Travis Audubon

Whole Foods

#### Town Lake Corridor Study

*The Town Lake Task Force, 1985*

#### Town Lake Park Comprehensive Plan

*Johnson, Johnson & Roy Inc., 1987*

#### Waterfront Overlay District Setbacks

**Austin Town Lake Corridor Study**

*Prepared by ROMA Design Group, 2000*

#### Town Lake Trail User Survey

*Prepared by Austin PARD, 2003*

#### Approaches to Public Art for Town Lake Park

*Submitted by Gail M. Goldman Associates, 2003*

#### Town Lake Trail Beautification Plan

*Town Lake Trail Foundation, 2006*

#### Riverside Boardwalk Investment Study- Completing the Town Lake Trail

*SEC Planning, Sept. 2007*

#### Every Town Needs a Trail: Lady Bird Johnson's Quiet Legacy, Jen Ohlson, 2007



## The Trail



## VISION PLAN

September 2008